



Forest Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests

## Forest Service News Release

Public Affairs Officer: Kimberlee Phillips

(970) 874-6717

[kimberlee.phillips@usda.gov](mailto:kimberlee.phillips@usda.gov)

[www.fs.usda.gov/gmug](http://www.fs.usda.gov/gmug)



### Spring Creek Dam Outlet Rehab Project

**Gunnison, Colorado, June 29, 2021** — The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests is planning to authorize Colorado Parks & Wildlife's (CPW) Spring Creek Reservoir Dam Outlet Rehabilitation Project. The project would last approximately 90 days beginning August 2021. The purpose of this project is to address the most immediate maintenance concerns to reduce the risk of dam failure.

District Ranger Matt McCombs notes "In the fall of 2017, the U.S. Forest Service was approached by CPW with eminent structural concerns at Spring Creek Reservoir. CPW and the USDA, Forest Service worked together to take immediate action to safeguard the dam and public safety. This project is a continuation of that important work and partnership."

Work on U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service lands would include the construction of a 625-foot access road to the dam's outlet, repairs/upgrades of the outlet pipe and installation of a new gate stem and controller along with a reinforced grade beam with instrumentation for monitoring.

Reaching the outlet and upstream site for the grade beam requires the reservoir to be fully drained. To allow for the required work, CPW is actively drawing down the water in Spring Creek Reservoir.

The work proposed on Forest Service lands is expected to be cleared through the National Environmental Policy Act under a categorical exclusion. A preliminary evaluation of anticipated environmental effects indicate there are no extraordinary circumstances that would require preparation of an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement.

For additional information, questions or concerns, please contact Jonathan Hare at 970-642-4445 or [jonathan.hare@usda.gov](mailto:jonathan.hare@usda.gov).

For more information on current fire restrictions, conditions and recreation opportunities, visit the [forest website](#) or [www.westslopefireinformation.com](http://www.westslopefireinformation.com).

Connect with us, or follow us on social media ([Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)).

####

*The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forests manage approximately 3 million acres of land in Southwest Colorado within Delta, Garfield, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Mesa, Montrose, Ouray, Saguache, San Juan and San Miguel counties.*

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

